

Message Text

PAGE 01 NATO 03950 261347Z

61

ACTION ACDA-10

INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 ISO-00 ERDA-05 CIAE-00 H-02 INR-07

IO-10 L-03 NSAE-00 OIC-02 OMB-01 PA-01 PM-03 PRS-01

SAJ-01 SAM-01 SP-02 SS-15 USIA-06 TRSE-00 NSC-05 /088 W

----- 085442

R 261258Z JUL 75

FM USMISSION NATO

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 2897

SECDEF WASHDC

INFO USDEL MBFR VIENNA

AMEMBASSY BONN

AMEMBASSY LONDON

USNMR SHAPE

USCINCEUR

S E C R E T USNATO 3950

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PARM, NATO, MBFR

SUBJ: MBFR: OPTION III: STATUS AND PROSPECTS IN SPC

1. THIS MESSAGE PRESENTS BRIEF MISSION ASSESSMENT OF PROSPECTS REGARDING SPC WORK ON GUIDANCE TO AHG ON OPTION III.

2. MISSION OFFICERS (PEREZ AND MOORE) ON JULY 24 CALLED ON ASSISTANT SECRETARY GENERAL KASTL AND DISARMAMENT DIRECTOR PABSCH TO DISCUSS ONGOING SPC WORK SCHEDULE ON OPTION III. INFORMAL AGREEMENT WAS REACHED THAT SPC SHOULD SEEK TO WORK MORNING AND AFTERNOON ON JULY 28 AND 31 WITH THE OBJECTIVE OF CONCLUDING A COMPLETE READING OF THE DRAFT GUIDANCE AND DRAFT SUPPLEMENT, WITH ALL AREAS OF DISAGREEMENT BRACKETED. SPC IN THE FOLLOWING WEEK WOULD MEET AUGUST 4 AND 7 WITH THE OBJECTIVE OF ELIMINATING AS MANY BRACKETS AS POSSIBLE. BY THE WEEK OF AUGUST 11, REMOVAL OF FURTHER BRACKETS WOULD REQUIRE DECISIONS BY SENIOR POLICY MAKERS MOST OF WHOM WILL BE AWAY FROM CAPITALS FOR THE AUGUST VACATION. SPC WOULD THUS SET ASIDE WORK ON OPTION III TEMPORARILY, TO RESUME WORK AROUND SEPTEMBER 1. OFFICIALS WHO REMAINED IN SECRET

PAGE 02 NATO 03950 261347Z

CAPITALS WOULD USE THE INTERIM PERIOD TO STUDY THE OUTSTANDING DIFFERENCES AND PREPARE THE DOSSIER FOR RETURN OF SENIOR DECISION MAKERS.

3. WE ARE ENCOURAGED BY RESULTS OF SPC MEETINGS THIS WEEK, AND BELIEVE IT POSSIBLE TO HAVE BRACKETED TEXTS OF DRAFT GUIDANCE AND SUPPLEMENT BY AUGUST 7. THE JULY 22 SPC MEETING, WHEN US FIRST INTRODUCED THE DRAFT SUPPLEMENT, RAISED SOME CONCERN IN OUR MINDS ON THIS SCORE, GIVEN INDICATIONS BY FRG REP OF INTEREST IN SUBSTANTIVE DISCUSSION UNRELATED TO TEXTS. WE LATER DISCUSSED THE MATTER WITH FRG REP, AND HE ASSURED US OF FRG DESIRE TO HAVE BRACKETED TEXTS BY END OF FIRST WEEK IN AUGUST. BY JULY 24 SPC MEETING ENTIRE SPC, INCLUDING FRG, WAS IN FACT WORKING THE DRAFT GUIDANCE AND DRAFT SUPPLEMENT.

4. WE BELIEVE THAT THE BRACKETS IN THE TEXTS WHICH RESULT FROM AUGUST 7 MEETING WILL TEND TO SPOTLIGHT DIFFERENCES IN THE KEY AREAS OF DEFINITION OF COMMON CEILING AND ARMAMENTS LIMITATIONS. SPC AND SPC SHIRTSLEEVE SESSIONS HAVE RESULTED IN A LARGE DEGREE OF AGREEMENT ON OTHER ISSUES, SUCH AS THE CONTENT OF THE PACKAGE, DEFINITIONS, REDUCTIONS, AND INCLUSION OF AIR MANPOWER IN THE COMMON CEILING (ALTHOUGH THE ALLIES WILL NOT APPROVE AN AIR/GROUND COMMON CEILING WITHOUT AGREEMENT ON SUB-CEILINGS WHICH MAINTAIN THE FOCUS ON GROUND FORCES, I.E., SUB-CEILING ON GROUND FORCES, OR LIMITED FREEDOM TO MIX WITH A SPECIFIC AND SMALL RANGE OF VARIATION). THIS, WHILE THERE WILL BE BRACKETS IN PARTS OF THE TEXT CONCERNING THESE LATTER SUBJECTS, THESE BRACKETS ARE UNLIKELY TO PERSIST VERY LONG.

5. WE BELIEVE ALSO THERE IS A REASONABLE CHANCE SPC WILL TOWARD THE END OF SEPTEMBER BE ABLE TO REACH FINAL AGREEMENT ON THE GUIDANCE AND THE SUPPLEMENT ON OTHER ASPECTS OF THE ALLIED POSITION FOR NAC APPROVAL IN TIME FOR USE AS APPROPRIATE EARLY IN THE FALL NEGOTIATING ROUND. PROSPECTS FOR MEETING THIS TIME-TABLE HAVE BEEN ENHANCED BY THE FACT THAT THE U.S. HAS HAD ITS WAY IN AVOIDING A WRITTEN MILITARY-TECHNICAL STUDY IN THE MBFR WORKING GROUP. THE SPC SHIRTSLEEVE SESSIONS, TRILATERALS, AND EXTENSIVE BILATERAL WORK WERE ABLE TO REPLACE THIS STEP IN THE PROCESS, AND ENABLE ALLIES TO MOVE ON TO DRAFTING GUIDANCE AND THE SUPPLEMENT. THE SHAPE ASSESSMENT AND MC COMMENT HAVE BEEN PARTICULARLY USEFUL IN THIS RESPECT, BY AFFIRMING THE MILITARY SECRET

PAGE 03 NATO 03950 261347Z

ACCEPTABILITY OF OPTION III, ON CERTAIN CONDITIONS, WHICH THE US DRAFT SUPPLEMENT HAS ACCOMMODATED.

6. STATEMENTS IN SPC AND OUR CONVERSATIONS WITH OTHER DELEGATIONS MAKE CLEAR THAT ALL THE DIRECT PARTICIPANTS, WITH THE POSSIBLE EXCEPTION OF FRG, WOULD LIKE TO HAVE GUIDANCE READY FOR INTRODUCTION WHEN APPROPRIATE IN THE FALL NEGOTIATING ROUND. THE FRG HAS TENDED TO PROJECT A HIGHLY RESERVED AND CAUTIOUS ATTITUDE IN SPC MEETINGS ON OPTION III. HOWEVER, WE DO NOT BELIEVE TRILATERALS OR SPC MEETINGS HAVE THUS FAR INDICATED ANY FRG INTENTION TO BLOCK OR DELAY OPTION III, AND WE CONSIDERED JULY 24 SPC MEETING ENCOURAGING. FRG WILL OF COURSE WORK HARD FOR GUIDANCE AND SUPPLEMENT TO MEET FRG CONCERNS, PARTICULARLY

ON ARMAMENT LIMITATIONS; ACHIEVING THE END SEPTEMBER TIME-
TABLE WILL DEPEND LARGELY ON DRAFTING GUIDANCE WHICH WILL BE
ADEQUATE FOR USE IN THE NEGOTIATION, BUT WHICH WILL ALSO MEET THESE
CONCERNS. THE ONLY OUTRIGHT OPPOSITION TO OPTION III WAS
REGISTERED IN THE FRANCH PAPER INTRODUCED IN THE JULY 10 NAC
MEETING. NO ONE HAS SINCE REFERRED TO THAT PAPER IN NAC OR SPC,
AND THE FRENCH HAVE SINCE MAINTAINED THEIR CUSTOMARY SOLENCE ON
MBFR. THE ONLY REFERENCE TO THE FRENCH PAPER WE HAVE HEARE WAS
AT JULY 18 TRILATERAL, WHEN RUTH SAID THAT THE ONLY POINT ON
WHICH HE AGREED WITH THE FRENCH PAPER WAS THAT ALLIED ARMAMENTS
LIMITATIONS WOULD CREATE AN UNACCEPTABLE ARMAMENTS ZONE IN
EUROPE. FINALLY, THE FLANK COUNTRIES, WHICH HAD RAISED A CONSID-
ERABLE NUMBER OF FLANK ISSUES DURING EARLIER DISCUSSIONS OF THE
AIR MANPOWER NO-INCREASE COMMITMENT AND AIR MANPOWER REDUCTIONS
HAVE HAD RELATIVELY LITTLE TO SAY ON OPTION III. THE GUIDANCE TO
THE AHG ON FLANK SECURITY WHICH THE NAC APPROVED JUST AS THE ALLIES
WERE BEGINNING WORK ON OPTION III HAS HELPED KEEP THIS ISSUE
FROM INTRUDING INTO THE OPTION III DISCUSSIONS.BRUCE

SECRET

<< END OF DOCUMENT >>

Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 18 AUG 1999
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: n/a
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 26 JUL 1975
Decaption Date: 01 JAN 1960
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Authority: greeneet
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 28 MAY 2004
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1975NATO03950
Document Source: ADS
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: 11652 GDS
Errors: n/a
Film Number: n/a
From: NATO
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1975/newtext/t197507102/abbrzlfli.tel
Line Count: 129
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE
Office: n/a
Original Classification: SECRET
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 3
Previous Channel Indicators:
Previous Classification: SECRET
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: n/a
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Authority: greeneet
Review Comment: n/a
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 03 APR 2003
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review History: RELEASED <03 APR 2003 by lzenbel0>; APPROVED <06 OCT 2003 by greeneet>
Review Markings:

Margaret P. Grafeld
Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
06 JUL 2006

Review Media Identifier:
Review Referrals: n/a
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: MBFR: OPTION III: STATUS AND PROSPECTS IN SPC
TAGS: PARM, NATO, MBFR
To: STATE
SECDEF INFO MBFR VIENNA
BONN
LONDON
USNMR SHAPE
USCINCEUR

Type: TE

Markings: Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 06 JUL 2006